

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 15 are pending, with Claim 1 being independent. Claims 1, 9, and 12 have been amended. With respect to the claim amendments, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the specification at, e.g., page 18, line 24 through page 19, line 2, and page 22, lines 23 through 27. Of course, the claims are not limited to the disclosed embodiments. The specification has been amended to attend to a formal matter.

The Official Action states that the certified copies of the priority documents have not been received. Applicant respectfully wishes to point out that the same were, in fact, filed in the international application, and copies have been provided by the International Bureau to the subject application, as shown by the following excerpt from the PAIR system:

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MPEP 1893.03(c). Favorable consideration and acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents are earnestly solicited.

Claims 1 through 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,753,937 (Shimomaki, et al.), which was cited in the October 11, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement. All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, that the retardation of the liquid crystal cancels the retardation of the phase difference plate when the voltage is applied to the liquid crystal (for the type of liquid crystal display apparatus claimed).

However, Applicant respectfully submits that Shimomaki, et al. fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed claimed feature as recited, *inter alia*, in Claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that, for example, in Shimomaki, et al.'s 4th embodiment, when a voltage is not applied, the retardation value of the liquid crystal cell is 1000nm and the retardation value of the retardation plate is 600nm (col. 23, lines 35-39), but that the retardation value (600nm) of the retardation plate is not cancelled by the retardation value of the liquid crystal cell.

Applicant further respectfully submits that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited document that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the above-discussed claimed features.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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